

The Petals

News Bulletin of Khrist Jyoti Province, Punjab-Rajasthan

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Patroness:

St. Little Flower

Patron:

Rev. Fr. George Alukka CST Provincial Superior

Chief Editor:

Fr. Bijo Kalayakkattil CST

Associate Editor:

Fr. Suneesh Ezholickal CST Fr. Mobin Thazhathedath CST

Interior Design:

Surinder Singh 'Pinku'

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"A good shepherd, a shepherd according to the heart of God, is the greatest treasure that the good God can give to a parish, and one of the most precious gifts of the divine mercy."

Dear friends, on 4th August we gratefully remember St. John Mary Vianney the patron saint of all priests. The life of St John-Mary Vianney remains a source of inspiration and a point of reference for all priests. Named as patron saint of all the Parish Priests of the world by Pope Pius XI, he has been unceasingly proposed by his successors as a model for the clergy. St John Paul II said that "The figure of the Curé of Ars does not fade." His example of life handed over to God, of the deep coherence between his teaching and his pastoral action, makes him a model for every priest, whatever the context of his mission. Today the challenge is everywhere 'how to face the Covid 19?

And pastoral care is not an exception to it. We know churches have been closed from March 25th onwards and it's almost the completion of four months. A question can be asked to ourselves, 'what have I been doing during these days of Covid? We can't just get rid of our responsibility just by helping the poor with some food supply, may be once or twice and that also from the abundance of the treasury. These days we hear about many priests how they acted during the days of Covid 19. They were accompanying the poor in their spiritual needs by arraigning the prayers in the church and in the villages, providing them with the available help that one could do. As members of Theresian family we too had done few charity works through CRI, our schools and parishes. Some of our parish priests have been in constant touch with the families under their care and responding to their various needs.

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In fact, they have redefined the meaning and purpose pastoral care because of their holistic approach to the people. What strikes us is that John Mary Vianney was entirely identified with his ministry in the radical gift of himself. Each priest experiences in his life a gulf between what he preaches and how he really lives. In the Curé of Ars we see a convergence that made one pilgrim say, having seen him: "I have seen God in a man." Benedict XVI tell us that "the teaching which continues to be handed on from St John-Mary Vianney to us is that, at the foundation of his pastoral commitment, the priest must have an intimate personal union with Christ, which he must cultivate and allow to grow day by day. It is only if he is in love with Christ that the priest can teach others about this union, this intimate friendship with the Divine Master, that he can touch the heart of people and open them up to the merciful love of the Lord. It is only in this way, therefore, that he will be able to hand on the enthusiasm and spiritual vitality to the communities with which the Lord entrusts him."

John Vianney is known for his sixteen hours a day in the Confessional, who says, "How great is the priest! The priest will only be understood in heaven. Were he understood on earth, people would die, not of fear, but of love." Today it's time to think for ourselves, 'how do we exhibit our existence among the people? We need to give our prime priority to our religious and prayer lives as well as we need to be a pastor who knows the smell of his sheep rather than our other positions in life. We need many more John Mary Vianneys today. He was really concerned about the spiritual dryness of

his people. In the same way, in today's context we can say, 'His first priority has been identifying the families who do not have the means for survival. For this we need to be always aware about our priority as a priest? We need to be in touch with the people whom we are entrusted to look after. We need to look after their spiritual needs especially in this difficult situation.

These are some of the practical activities that we can do during these days: such as-

- at least phone up the family members and have touch with them
- find out the families who find very difficult to survive
- read Bible little more and make it a habitual activity
- help the catechism teachers to make arrangements for catechism classes
- make the people the need of daily prayers in family together with all the family members.

Dear friends during this Covid time let us try to help our faithful to come out from spiritual dryness of their life. Help them to understand the need of total trust in Jesus Christ through whom the whole world will be saved. Let us try to spend time in prayer and spiritual activities. And as a member of same family let us support each other by correcting, forgiving, guiding and appreciating each other.

Wish you all A VERY HAPPY FEAST



Editor Fr. Bijo Kalayakkattil CST



JMJT

Dear Fathers and Brothers,

As I write this note my heart recalls the song of Mother Mary, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour" (Lik.1:47).

It is Covid time. A small virus has brought the world to kneel. It shows the powerlessness of humanity. Jesus says: "Apart from me you can do nothing" (John 15:5). It is a time to depend on God more and more. During this Pandemic we as a Province experienced the power of God for the humble and the weak. Jesus stood with us and did marvellous things for us. The best example of this marvellous deed is the signing of the new Contract with the Diocese of Jalandhar. It was an act of God and God alone. All praise and glory to God. It is a time to thank the Lord for the

manifold graces we have received during these months.

Eight Novices of our Province made their FIRST PROFESSION on 17th May 2020 at Little Flower Novitiate. Abohar

- . Bro. Abraham (Sanal) Thottamattam CST
- 2. Bro. John (Alby) kuttikizhakethil CST
- 3. Bro. John (Arun) Parackal CST
- 1. Bro. Joseph (Joseph) Ayathupadathu CST
- 5. Bro. Joseph (Noyal) Nalannadiyil CST
- 6. Bro. Joseph (Savio) Mulackal CST
- 7. Bro.Thomas (Alvin) Pathadan CST
- 8. Bro. Varghese (Ashbin) Madan CST

The three brothers made their Perpetual Profession

- 1. Bro. Augustine (Rince) Kalapurackal CST
- 2. Bro. Joseph (Nikhil) Valeputhenpurayil CST
- . Bro. Thomas (Juslin) Padinjaremattam CST

The following brothers renewed their Vows.

- 1. Bro. Devasia (Alex) Mannoor CST
- 2. Bro. Chacko (Joby) Thythara CST
- 3. Bro. John (Arun) Chemmanampadath CST
- 4. Bro. Joseph (Joice) Mutthannattu CST
- 5. Bro. Joseph (Justin) Panthalanickal CST
- 6. Bro. Thomas (Tom) Alancheril CST
- 7. Bro. Cherian (Abhy) Pezhathuvayalil CST
- 8. Bro. Joseph (Abin) Muthukulathil CST
- 9. Bro. Joseph (Jaimy) Avickamyalil CST
- 10. Bro. Joseph (Jobin) Parappillil CST
- 11. Bro. Mathew (Albert) Kalloor CST
- 12. Bro. Paulose (Bibin) Moolan CST
- 13. Bro. Philip (Jobin) Arattukulam CST
- 14. Bro. Augustine (Albin) Athiyalil CST
- 15. Bro. Cherian (Dijo) Machingal CST
- 16. Bro. George (Abin) Thekumthadathil CST
- 17. Bro. John (Febin) Kurishumootil CST
- 18. Bro. Paul (Paul) Vettiyangal CST
- 19. Bro. Thomas (Arun) Pereppadan CST
- 20. Bro. Thomas (Bijesh) Kuttiyath CST

The following brothers entered the Novitiate.

- 1. Bro. Sebastian (Ashbin) Nellickal CST
- 2. Bro. Varghese (Dawn) Arackal CST
- 3. Bro. Varghese (Jerin) Kuzhipathalil CST
- 4. Bro. Kurian (Roshan) Kodiyattu CST

Bro. Alex Mannoor received Cassock on 11th May 2020 at Khrist Jyoti Mission Bhavan Mudickal and he will be doing his Theology Course at Vidya Jyoti College, Delhi. On 20th June Bro. Ajay Narippara received the Order of Diaconate through the anointing of His Excellency Mar Joseph Kallarangatt, the Bishop of Pala, at St.Thomas Cathedral Pala.

Rev. Fr. Antony Anmura started his Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee on 13th June 2020. Rev. Fr. Varghese Chittinappilly, Rev.Fr. Joseph Padinjarekuttu, and Rev. Fr. Antony Moonjely started the Golden Jubilee of their First Professions on 17th May 2020. Rev. Fr. Saju Thottamattom and Rev. Fr. John Joseph Myladumparayil started the Silver Jubilee of their First Profession on 17th May 2020. I take this opportunity to wish you dear fathers, a Joyful and Fruitful Jubilee year.

Another great event happened was the signing of the New Contract between the Diocese of Jullunder and Khrist Jyoti Province. It was a long journey started on March 7, 2011, with a letter of His Grace Most Rev. Dr. Anil Thomas Couto, asking the then Provincial, Very Rev. Fr. Thomas Anjilivelil for the renewal of the then existing Contract. From then on negotiations and discussions started and continued through various phases during the tenure of Very Rev. Fr. John Kapapiarumalayil and Very Rev. Fr. Saji Nellikunnel.

When His Excellency Rt. Rev. Dr. AgneloGracias took charge as the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Jalandhar, he initiated the process of discussion through a meeting at Sri Muktsar Sahib on 19th February, 2019. Since the problem was referred to Rome

earlier, both the parties sought the advice of the Nunciature, and a suggestion that we need a new Contract was approved by both the parties. We came to a conclusion that the new contract could be based on the contract which we prepared to sign with Bp. Anil.

The committee members had various rounds of discussions and we had a final draft on 18th November 2019. According to this draft we are handing over to the Diocese six stations, Makhu, Ferozepur Cantt, Ferozepur Canal Colony, Ferozepur City, Mamdot, Bhagsar and Abohar Parish. Among these the first three will be immediately handed over to the diocese. The other three also will be handed over to the Diocese but CST fathers will be Parish Priests in these three stations for next five to ten years. All the expenses of these stations including the stipend of the Priests and the Sisters will be met by the Diocese as per the Diocesan Norms.

The Nunciature asked us to send the final Draft to the Propaganda Fide for approval. On 8th December 2019, it was sent to Rome and we received their approval with minor corrections on 26th May, 2020. The contract was signed on 31st May, 2020, on the Feast day of Pentecost, which would come into effect on 3rd July, 2020, on the Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle. So yesterday, this contract has come into effect.

Bishop Agnelo asked us to look after the Abohar Parish for one more year and the Parish Church will function in the school. I take this opportunity to thank our former Provincials and their team for the efforts they took to have a contract with the Diocese of Jalandhar. Dear Rev. Fr. Thomas Anjilivelil, Rev. Fr. John Kappiarumalayil and Rev. Fr. Saji Nellikunnel, it is through you and your teams efforts, hard work and strong positions and stands that made this fruit to ripen now. On behalf of the whole Province I thank you dear Fathers.

From the beginning onwards the discussions were done by committee members. The committee members apart from Provincials and Councillors were, Fr. John Kudilil, Fr. Sunny Charakunnath, Fr. Saju Koothodyputhenpuravil, Fr. Sunny Cheruthanickal, Fr. Sunny Kurisummoottil and Fr. Augustine Pamplany. Dear Fathers, it is your hard work in formulating positions, making arguments and continuous discussions that made this Contract possible. The whole Province is proud of you all and thank you all for your committed service to the Province.

I take this opportunity to thank our Superior Generals Very Rev. Fr. Mathew Kumpuckal and Very Rev. Fr. Francis Kilivallickal and their Councillors for their timely interventions, corrections, discussions and support. Very Rev. Fr. Francis Kilivallickal and the Council approved the Contract. Thank you dear Fathers for your approval and all the support you have been giving to us.

I thank my Council members for their support, corrections and supervision.

Dear Fathers as the members of the Province your continuous prayers, support and constructive suggestions and criticisms made this Contract possible. It is the gift given to our community by God. I feel it is an approval by God for our Province. It should make us more humble. Everything is by the grace of God.

It is a time of thanks giving. We have to thank God our Father for the Blessings we are receiving every day, especially this great blessing. Let us offer our Province and all her endeavours into the Sacred Heart of Jesus. I feel it is a special gift of St. Therese and Our dear Valliachan. The day we started to pray the prayer of Canonization of our Valliachan I prayed for this intention only. He is a SAINT. I believe it is his intercession through his dear SAINT that made this possible. I request all of you to pray for various needs through the intercession of our Valliachan.

All our schools obtained excellent results. It is the fruit of the hard work of fathers, sisters and the entire school staff. I congratulate you dear fathers for your able and dedicated leadership. My hearty Congratulations and appreciation to all the Rev. Sisters, teachers and nonteaching staff of our schools for the results.

On 19th July 2020 His Excellency Rt. Rev. Dr. Oswald J. Lewis blessed the renovated Church at Bikaner.

My hearty Congratulations and appreciation goes to Rev. Fr. Alwin the Vicar and the parish community for the successful completion of the renovation of the Church. Rev. Fr. Sebastian and Rev. Fr. Shibu, it is your valuable support and guidance that made this task possible. Sincere thanks to both of you.

During this time of Corona Pandemic, dear Fathers and Brothers we are called to be more close to Jesus. Let us spend our time in Reading Bible and Spiritual books. As I have mentioned in a letter to you earlier let us do some manual work in vegetable and flower gardens. It is a hard time for all of us and the whole world. I request all of you to cut down the celebrations and other gatherings.

Corona Pandemic is a time to look into our missionary style and strategy. I think it is a time we look beyond schools. My suggestion is to have some land for cultivation for all our ashrams. The cultivation in these lands can sustain the members of the ashram. So the Province need not give stipend to the houses. Let us think about it...

Offering all of us into the SACRED HEART OF JESUS.



Othiri snehathode swantham Alukkachan



THE BELLS ARE RINGING

In the coldest days of the year lord Jesus comes to visit his beloved. This vear's Christmas celebration was conducted on 9th and 10^{th for} the fathers and 13th and 14th for sisters in the month of December respectively in provincial house. Mar Jose Puthenveettil the Auxilatry Bishop of Faridabad diocese joined with us for the Christmas celebration and he was the main celebrant of the holy mass. It was a two day programme filled with prayers, games and joy of the savior who always wish to be in the midst of his creation. The birth of Jesus is the gift of Lord to the mankind. In the remembrance of the same, exchange of the Christmas gifts

took place. Thus the joy of everyone is shared between all around from the close to the far ends of the infinity.

THE CALLTO BE

The call of our Lord to be with him and to lead his flock to the path of the eternal beauty was newly entrusted to Dn. Deepak Thookuzhy CST on 28th December 2019 by the anointing hands of his Excellency Mar Jacob Thoomkuzhy at St.Xaviers church, Vilakkumadom, Dn. MelbinThekkamanil CST on 29th December 2019 by Excellency Mar. RaphelThattil at Ss Peter & Paul's Church Kuruppampady and finally Dn. AkhilThattaparambil CST received the anointing from the hands of his excellency Mar. Joseph Pamplany at Fathima

Matha Church Kudiyanmala. The Khristu Jyoti family welcome and congratulate the new Priests. Be a priest into His heart.

HOME COMING

To spend their Christmas vacation the theologians came to provincial house on 22nd December 2019 and stayed till 3rd January 2020. Some of them went to mission stations and others were in provincial house. This vacation was special for all the theologians. And the celebration of Christmas added more joy to their vacation here. All the brothers had enjoyed their stay here during their vacation and was rejunuated.

NEW PRIEST'S DAY

The new priest's day was celebrated at provincial house on 6th February. The fathers and sisters from far and near mission stations actively participated in the holy Eucharistic celebration and the newly ordained priests were welcomed in to the priestly koinonia with joy and happiness. The heart of every one was rejoicing in the divine love and care of the Lord Almighty for his people.

RELIGIOUS LIFE

A seminar on religious life was conducted at our provincial house for fathers and sisters. On 6th Feb.it was conducted for fathers and on 8th of Feb. it was conducted for the sisters. The seminar was guided by Fr. Jacob Nalluparayil MCBS. The seminar was an

enriching and refreshing experience for all. The unknown realms of the Religious life were opened through this seminar. The seminar mainly touched the unexplored arenas of the Religious life awaited to be opened by someone. It also emphasized on the relevance of the Religious life in this most modern era in the human history and inconsistent world.

INTO A PICNIC MOOD

The fathers from the Khrist Jyoti province had their picnic to Sikkim and Darjeeling the north eastern parts of India. Altogether about 38 fathers from Punjab, Rajasthan, Kerala and africa joined the picnic. It was from 16th to 22nd February 2020. The visit to the north eastern part of India like Gangdong, Darjeeling and so on helped the fathers to get introduced to the new world of cultural integration and to the new horizon of outlook towards the other parts of our country. The journey to the new dimensions have also imparted the knowledge of the life of the common people and the diversity of our nation. The trip really helped everyone to freshen up their minds and thoughts.

VISIT OF A MISSIONARY

Fr. BabychanTholanikkal CST has spent some days in Punjab and Rajastan mission during his vacation time. His presence was a joy to the KJ family. He shared his experiences with the upcoming buds of the province and enriched the culture and the African style of living. He also emphasized the scarcity of the priests.

CONFERENCE CUMTRAINING

A comprehensive seminar for Fathers on the accounting procedure was organized by the department of finance of the Khrist Jyoti province in consultation with Christian Institute of Management (CIM), Chennai from 9th to 11th of March 2020 at the Missiological Centre Hanumangrah. It was a conference cum training programe on accounting, society acts, and land documents. The seminar helped fathers to know new ways in accounting and finance. The seminar was informative and really useful.

THE MEADOWS OF FUTURE

After a long journey from Aluva to Hanumangarh which started on 14th evening the philosophers of our province from Little Flower Seminary, Aluva reached here in the provincial house on March 17th early morning in order to spend their holidays in mission. Thirteen brothers of our province with missionary zeal and enthusiasm reached here for knowing more about and to be part of the mission during the time of vacation. Five theologians who are studying at Delhi Vidya Jyoti College also joined them on 20th onwards. Fr. Provincial and fathers welcomed them here in the Provincial house.

CANONICALVISITS

Fr. George Alukka the provincial superior of the Khrist Jyoti province had officially visited various mission stations of Punjab and Rajasthan during the month of January, February, and March as a part of canonical visitation. He has gone through the various activities and the undertakings of various stations and the concerns of the respective places. He shared his view and notions for the further growth of the community.

PERPETUAL PROFESSION AND RENEWAL OF VOWS

Three of our Major Seminarians, Bros. Rince Kalapurackal, Nikhil Valeputhenpurayil and Juslin Padinjaremattom having completed five years after their First Profession dedicated their whole life permanently to the Lord with their Final Profession on 12th May 2020 at Jyoti Niwas, Hanumangarh (Nikhil) and Khrist Jyoti Mission Bhavan, Mudickal (Rince and Juslin). Other Major Seminarians renewed their vows on the same day in front of the respective superior delegates under whom they had been spending their holidays.

INTHE FULLNESS OF JUBILEE

Rev. Fr. Joy Munduplackal CST have completed his silver jubilee of his first religious profession. And at the same time Rev. Fr. Varghese Chittinappilly CST, Rev. Fr. Joseph Padinjarekutt CST, and Rev. Fr. Kurian Moonjely CST have begun

the golden jubilee of their first religious profession and Rev Fr. Saju Thottamattom CST, Rev. Fr. John Joseph Myladumparayil CST have begun the silver jubilee of their first religious profession. On 13th June Fr. Antony Anmura started his Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee. Let us thank God for the gift of these fathers and pray for them very specially in this Jubilee Year.

RENEWAL OF THE CONTRACT WITH JALANDHAR

We have signed the Contract with Jalandhar Diocese on 31st May 2020, on the solemnity of the Feast of Pentecost. The new Contract will come into effect on 3rd July, 2020, on the solemnity of the feast of St. Thomas the Apostle. As per the Contract three stations Makhu, Ferozepur Cantt. and Canal Colony will be handed over to the Diocese. Ferozepur City, Mamdot and Bhagsar stations will be handed over to the Diocese, but our fathers will continue to render our service as Parish Priests for the period of five to ten years. Abohar Parish is handed over to the Diocese, but, for one year one of our priests will be the Parish Priest.

DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF FR. VARGHESE KOIKKARA

We commemorated the 12th death anniversary of Rev Fr. Varghese Koikkara, on 3rd June 2020. Solemn high requiem mass was offered for the dead

presided over by Rev. Fr. Provincial and concelebrated by our fathers from Punjab and Rajasthan. Many sisters from both the states also joined us on the occasion. There was office for the dead after the Mass at the tomb.

RAISED TO THE STATUS OF DEACON

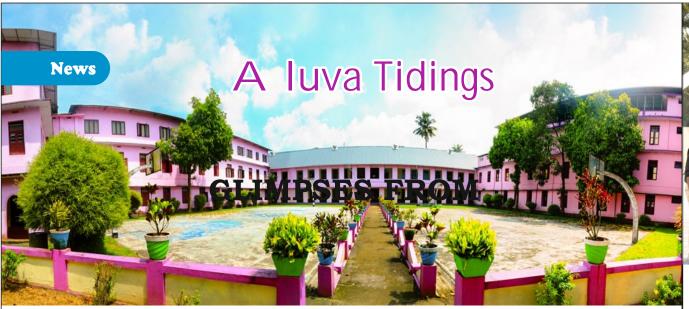
Bro. Ajay Narippara CST received the order of Diaconate through the anointing hands of his Excellency Mar. Joseph Kallaragattu the Bishop of Eparchy of Palai on 20th June 2020 at St. Thomas Cathedral Pala. Prayerful wishes and congratulations to Dn. Ajay Narippara CST.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

- Fr. Jobins Puthiyamangalath CST-Parish Priest of St. Paul's Catholic Church and Manager of St. Paul's School at Jaisalmer
- Fr. Joseph Padinjarekuttu CST-Member of the Khrist Jyoti Mission Bhavan, Mudickal.
- Fr. Melbin Thekkemalil CST- Asst. Priest in Charge, Asst. Manager of Little Flower Convent School, Ashram Procurator and the in charge of Xavior Printing Press, Sri Muktsar Sahib.
- Fr. Alwin Padinjarekuttu CST-Higher studies and Member of Khrist Jyoti Mission Bhavan, Mudickal

- Fr. Siril Pothen CST- Parish Priest of St Mary's Church, the Procurator of St. Mary's Ashram and the Asst. Manager and the Bursar of St. Mary's Convent School, Sikar.
- Fr. Deepak Thoomkuzhy CST- The Secretary to Provincial Superior of Khrist Jyoti Province and as the House Procurator of Jyoti Niwas at Hanumangarh.
- Fr. Jobin Moolan CST The Priest In charge at Ratangarh Station.
- Fr. Akhil Thattaparambil CST -Asst. Priest in Charge, Asst. Manager of Little Flower School and the House Procurator of Little Flower station at Jhunjhunu.
- Fr. Tibin Manooseril CST Asst. Priest in charge and Asst. Manager of Sacred Heart Convent School, Suratgarh.
- Fr. Shibin Kochelath CST The Asst. Priest in-charge, and House Procurator of Little Flower Station, Sikhwala and Asst. Manager and Bursar of Alphonsa Convent School, Sikhwala.
- Jidhin Kurisinkal CST Parish Priest of St Joseph Catholic Church, Abohar.

- Fr. Rijo Menacherry CST − The Manager of the Holy Cross Sr. Sec. School, Director of Basil Dairy Farm, land in charge, member and Procurator of the Ashram at Danewala.
- Fr. Bibin Narippara CST Priest In charge at Sadiq Station.
- Fr. Dony Mullakariyil CST Parish Priest of St Francis Xavier's Catholic Church, Bikaner, Vice Principal of BBS and the procurator of Little Flower Ashram, Bikaner.
- Fr. Alwin Elavumkal CST Vice Rector and Procurator of Khristu Jyoti Minor Seminary, Mudickal and in charge of Anikkad Land.
- Fr.Shan Alakaparambil CSTservice to the Diocese of Faridabad.
- Fr. Bibin Edapallymadathil CST-Priest in charge of Kot Ise Khan Station of the Diocese of Faridabad
- Fr. Tom Padinjarayil CST Priest In charge at Rama Mandi Station.
- Fr. Sunny Charakunnath CST-Sabbatical year.



RECTORS DAY

We celebrated the birthday of our Rector as Rectors Day on 13th of November. It was a stunning day for our Little Flower community. The seminary community felicitated Fr. Rector and prayed for him in a special way. The day was marked with a solemn Mass in the morning, various competitions during the day, colorful and charming entertainment programmes and a sumptuous banquet in the evening.



FAMILY 2K19

The month of November was blessed with unforgettable moments at Little Flower seminary. 27th and 28th of November

were most memorable and loveable days for 2nd year students of philosophy and the entire seminary community because of the adorable presence of the parents of our brothers. The parents meet of the second year brothers was named as Family 2k19. The parents reached on 27the evening in the seminary. The program started with a former welcome by Fr. Rector and an introduction session with the staff members. It was followed by a touching prayer session by third year philosophers and a delicious dinner. The cultural banquet by the second year brothers and their parents filled the hearts and the minds of all the audience. The second day started with a solemn Mass. Dr. Augustine Pamplany CST exhorted the parents of their need of constant accompaniment in nurturing the vocation of the seminarians. We were lucky to get such an experienced preacher and we enjoyed his class together with our parents. Parents along with their children found time to meet Fr. Rector and the Fr Animators. The parents meet ended with lunch at noon. We sincerely thank the Fathers and Brothers for the meticulously organizing the meet.



CANONICAL VISIT

Very Rev. Fr. Francis Kilivallickal CST, Superior General of our Congregation made the canonical visit from 3-14 December. After the night prayer on 3 December, the visitation began officially with an orientation talk by Fr. General based on the Gospel of St. Jon, 5,1-8. Reflecting on the miracle at Bethsaida, Fr. General invited our attention to the need of fostering the human qualities of availability, accessibility and affordability in the lives of the seminarians and priests. He found time to meet all the Staff and CST seminarians personally and the Other seminarians and Day scholars in groups. The presence of Fr. General really inspired the entire seminary community. At the end of the canonical visit Fr. General addressed the seminary community, gave his feedbacks and exhorted us to value the cost of the discipleship. We gratefully acknowledge the love and concern of Fr General for the all round development of the seminary.



GINGLE BELLS!

The Christmas tide was filled with all its joy and warmth in our hearts. To express and to share this happiness of the Christmas the seminary community joined together on 19th December in an open air stage set in the basket ball courts. The community Christmas celebration included prayer session, tableau competitions by the living groups, exchange of gifts to the Charismas friends and an agape. The Christmas celebration in the Institute was on 21 December. It was marked by a Christmas Message by Fr. Abraham Valliyamthadathil CST, carol singing competitions and cutting cakes. The second year brothers won the first prize for the carol singing competitions. The Christmas midnight mass started at 11.45 PM. Fr. Jojo Varakukalayil was the

main celebrant of the Holy Mass and Fr. Rector preached the homily. After the Mass there was Christmas tree by the YSS group, sharing the sweetness of Christmas with cake and coffee to the faithful. The seminary community joined in the refectory and greeted one another a Merry Christmas and shared the food prepared on the occasion. After the breakfast brothers left the seminary for Christmas holidays. During the Christmas season our seminary choir participated in a number of carol singing programme and extended the greetings of the season.

A DAYWITH NEW PRIESTS

Fresh in the vineyard of the Lord! This year our Congregation was blessed with 9 new priests. All of them gathered in the seminary chapel on 7th January to thank the Lord for His gratuitous gift of ministerial priesthood. Fr. Rector welcomed and introduced all the new priests to the community. Fr. Jyoth is Puthukattil was the main celebrant of the Holy Mass. Fr. Joice Rathappillil preached a touching homily. We felicitated the new priests in the refectory and presented everyone a small gift as a token of our love and care for them. Fr. Melbin Thekkemalil expressed the sentiments of gratitude on behalf of the entire new priests. The celebration concluded with a friendly basket ball match with the new priests. Though all the new priests fought well, succumbed to the young blood. We wish them all the best in their future ministry.

TRANSCENDENTAL REFLECTION.

Who is a philosopher? The answer to this question can be as the one who loves wisdom or the one who seeks wisdom. To reiterate this idea, we observed 13 January as 'Philosophers Day'. The day started with a solemn Holy mass by Fr. James Purathayil CST, the General Councilor and the Social Secretary of the Congregation. On this occasionProf Dr. Thomas Panakalam, HOD, Malayalam, Bharatmatha College, Thrikkakara spoke on the topic secular India and the impact of religious fundamentalism. It was followed by a debate and Fr. Dr. Jose Manjayil CST, Education secretary of the Congregation moderated the session. We became real philosophers when we debated on the relevance and importance of secular Nation facilitating the coexistence of all the religions and the people. There was a inter batch basket ball competitions. The second year students of philosophy won Bro. Ajin Memorial trophy and became winners of the matches. A bouquet of gratitude to FrsJojo, Francis and the academic secretaries for making the day an unforgettable one.

TALENT BOX IS CLOSED FOR THIS YEAR

The literary and cultural academy plays an indispensable role in the integral development of the seminarians. On 25 January, we had an official conclusion of the literary and cultural academy 2019-2020.



Fr. Manjush Srakath CST, Vice Rector of the seminary presided the meeting and inspired us with his thought provoking message. All the three batches of brothers staged various cultural programme. During this occasion Fr. Manjush gave away the prizes of the annual competitions. The official releasing of the novel 'EeOrmakal MayumMunpe' by Fr. Kurvila Areeparambil CST doubled the joy of the day. In the evening Pala Communication presented a beautiful drama: 'JEEVITHAM MUTHAL JEEVITHAM VARE'. It was well appreciated by all the viewers.

REPUBLIC DAY

We celebrated the 71 Republic day on 26 January and paid homage to the Nation. After the solemn Holy Mass by Fr. Manjush, Fr. Rector hoisted the national flag. Bro. Godwin Vengathadathil gave an inspiring Republic day message. As part of the republic day celebration we had a half day outing in the afternoon. It was really a pleasant and delightful day for all of us.

JUBILEE GREETINGS

The Little Flower seminary community was really delighted and priveleged to

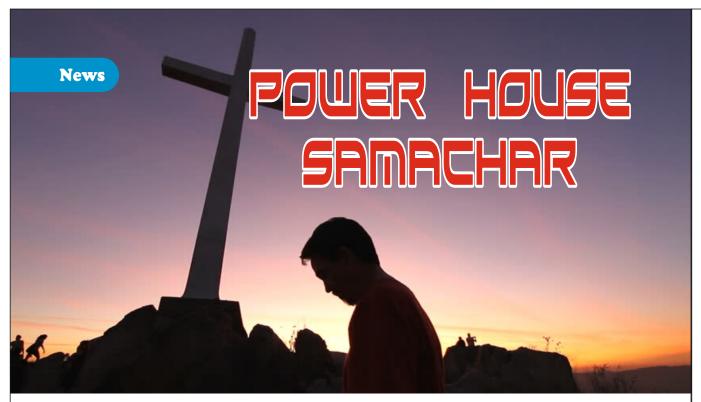
celebrate the 25 year of priestly ordination of Very Rev. Fr. George Alukka CST, Provincial Superior of Khrist Jyoti Province on 10 January, and 60 year of the priestly ordination of Mar Dominic Kokkattu CST, Bishop Emeritus of the Eparchy of Gorakhpur on 3 February. We thanked the Almighty together with the Jubilarians during the Holy Eucharistic celebration and felicitated them in the refectory and wished them God's abundant graces on their way ahead in the service of his flock.

EXAMS... HOLIDAYS

It is written "bend of the road is not an end of the road". Exams are not an end but a test! It is the test of the fruits of the study. It is a time of exams in the seminary. Second year students of philosophy are busy with their University examinations. Third year students of philosophy are busy with comprehensive examinations. First years are getting ready for the semester examinations. We wish all the success and very best in the exams and hope to meet you all during the summer holidays!

Wish you a fruitful Lent and a glorious Easter!





Into deep Eucharistic devotion

Novices were given a chance to enhance their devotion to the Eucharist through a Eucharistic retreat. It was given by Fr. Johny MCBS. During sever winter we could experience the heat of our Sacred Liturgy. It was really a fortune for us to have one week of retreat. And we all created a deep rooted devotion to the Holy Eucharist.

Canonical Visitations

The Superiors of our Congregation made their canonical visit's here. Both Provincials' of Khrist Jyothi and Little Flower and also Fr. Baiju Kannampally the Vicar General visited our house. Fr. Lona Kallely made his visit on 13th and 14th of January. Fr. George Alukka visited on

17th to 19th of January and Fr. Baiju Kannampally made his visit on 5th and 6th of February. They met us individually and inspired us with the valuable words and corrections. Thank you dear Fathers for your kind visit.

Jai Bharath

We Novices celebrated our Republic day on 26th of January. After the Holy Mass we started or celebration. The Flag was hoisted by Fr. Master. Bro. Joel inspired the people with his valuable words. And Brothers sang patriotic song and made the day colorful. Our Parish community was also present for the ceremony.

At the shore of Tiberius

Novices had one week of Tiberius

experience during our retreat which was given by Fr. Basil Mookknamthottathil. We were taken to Hanumangrah in order to participate in the retreat. It was from 16th to 21st of February. Through this days we travelled into ther houses of the Holy Spirit and it helped us to be more firm in our vocation and to prepare us for our first religious commitment.

You will be a Priest forever in the Order of Melchizedek

Every newly ordained Priest is an encouragement for those who are in formation as well as they are lamp that enlightens in them the hope of their own ordination day. This same had happened in our Novitiate house too on 25th February and 5th March respectively. On 25th February our New Priests Fr. Akhil and Fr. Deepak came over here and offered their first Mass with us, Fr. Deepak was the main celebrant. Fr. Akhil broke the Word of God. On the same day Novices performed programs based on our constitution and directory which made the day more colorful. On March 5th Fr. Melbin and Fr. Binu celebrated their 1st mass with us. Fr. Melbin was the main celebrant. Fr. Binu broke the Word of God. On both celebrations whole novitiate family along with FCC Sisters were presented.

Adieu and Welcome

After completing ten and half months of sincere and graceful novitiate life Fr. Shijo Kochupurackal received promotion to his home province with new endeavors. And New Priest of the present year Fr. Binu Kottamurickal joined the novitiate community with new responsibilities as the Socius and procurator. The adieu and welcome ceremony took place on 8th March at 70'clock with the joyful and colorful programs of the novices.

F.D of our New Socius

March 19th was day of Joy for our Novitiate. We were blessed to celebrate the Feast of our new socius. We had a Solemn Eucharistic celebration in which we prayed for Fr. Binu Kottamurickal and for novices who celebrated their Feast on the same day. During breakfast we wished them and celebrated the Feast.

Prayer for Corona Virus

Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters we the Novices are ardently praying and keeping intercessions for the Corona Virus affected world. So let's pray together with a contrite heart so that the good Lord may shower His Blessings and will save our earth from this contagious disease.



All to Jesus I surrender

May 17th 2020 was a special day in the history of Little Flower Novitiate house, Abohar. For the first time eleven of our Novices, eight from KJ province and Three from LF province committed themselves to the Lord through their first religious profession. They surrendered their aspirations and desires to the Lord by taking the three Vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. Rev. Fr. Saju thottamattom was the main celebrant of the day. Due to corona pandemic only a few fathers and sisters were present on the day to witness this grace filled programme. On the same day we also greeted Fr. Varghese Chittilapally and Fr. Saju Thottamattom as they began their golden and silver jubilee of their first religious profession. Congratulations dear fathers and brothers.

Happy Birthday to you dear fathers.

"Every birthday helps us to recall the wonderful blessings that the good Lord showered upon us". On May 27^{th} we celebrated the birthday of our Fr. Master. We, the Novices celebrated it with much

joy and enthusiasm. To give more beauty and color to the day novices presented few programmes on the stage. Our ashram members were present for the celebration. On 11th of June we also celebrated the birthday of Fr. Binu Kottamurikal, our Assi. Novice Master. We had a solemn Mass in the morning. In the evening our Ashram member came together to celebrate the birthday. Thank you dear fathers for your presence.

Adieu to Fr. Rijo and welcome to. Fr. Jidhin

On 4th of June we, the members of little flower novitiate house and the members of Danewala Ashram gathered together to express our thanks to Fr. Rijo for the good works he has done for the development of Abohar parish. He was here for two years as the parish priest. He is being appointed as the manager of Holy Cross School, Dnewala and the incharge of the cattle farm. In his place Fr. Jidhin has taken charge as the new parish priest. Best wishes to Fr. Rijo and hearty welcome to Fr. Jidhin.

Hospitalization and Medical Careof Rev Fr. George Kulampally

On 26th April Rev Fr. George Kulampally was admitted in Sacred Heart Hospital, Maqsudan, Jalandhar and was shifted to CMC Ludhiana on 29th April. The first session of chemotherapy wasadministered to him on 8th May. Then onwards in the first week of every month we take him to CMC, Ludhiana for further sessions of chemotherapy.

With a prayerful heart

LITTLE FLOWER SEMINA

News

Retreat in preparation to enter the novitiate started in the seminary on 11th May. Bro Libin Kalappurackal, our Regent renewed his vows on the next day during the holy Mass.

Sent off to the Third Years

We had the sent off to our 3rd year minor seminarians on May 15th. The same day in the morning, the retreat for the candidates to enter the novitiate was concluded.

To novitiate

The candidates to enter the novitiate were taken to Novitiate House, Abohar on May 16th early morning due to lockdown restrictions.

First Profession

Fr Bino participated in the first profession of the novices at the Novitiate House, Abohar on 17th May 2020.

Reception of the Professed Seminarians

Reception to the Professed Seminarians held in the seminary on May 24. They reached with their Novice Master Fr Varghese Poovathummoottil. In the evening we had games, dinner and some programms by the seminarians.

Adiue to Regent

We badeadieu to our dear Regent Bro Libin Kalappurakkal on 30th May. Bro. Libin of the St. Thomas Province had been sent for regency here by his Provincial

Superior as a gesture of inter - Province collaboration and co-operation. We gratefully acknowledge the generosity and support of V.Rev. Fr. Joby Edamuriyil and his team. We also thank Bro. Libin for his great service to this seminary.

Unexpected lockdown

The unexpected spread of the covid-19 led to a national lockdown and everyone is affected. We had to send our brothers for their annual vacation. The suspension of the trains and other transports led us to send both our minor seminarians and the brothers who made their first profession together by a hired special bus up to Delhi. From Delhi they had the tickets booked for a special train to Kerala. Along withDn. Ajay and Bro Regent they left the seminary on 30th May after taking a special pass.

Feast of Fr. Bino

We celebrated the fest of our Vice Rector Fr Bino (Antony) on 13th June. All fathers of the Ashram and the remaining members of the S.H community were present for the solemn high Mass and for the breakfast.

Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

The feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus was celebrated in the Ashram on June 19th in a simple manner. We had a solemn high Mass and breakfast on that day in which all the Fathers, Sisters and Teachers participated.

Arrival of Regents

Our Regents Bros. Joby, Arun, Joyce and Bro Alex reached Punjab on 17 July from Kerala. They are kept in quarantine now and will be sent to their own assigned regency places and Theologate later.

Welcome Fr. Tom Padinjarayil

Fr. Tom Padinjareyil was welcomed to Malout Ashram on July 18th at a simple celebration held at Gidhedbaha. All priest members of the Ashram were present there.

Visit of Rev.Fr John Kudilil

Fr John Kudilil visited the seminary. He spent two weeks here. The presence of the pioneer and founder of this station gave us more joy and inspiration.

To Kerala

Fr Bino left for Kerala on 19th July to take care of the 2 batches of the minor seminarians who are held up at Khrist Jyoti Minor Seminary, Mudickal due to the alarming state of covid-19 in India now.

Birthdays

Birthday reminds us of our struggles, pains in the past and the need of perfecting ourselves for the future. We celebrated the birthdays of brothers Nikhil Valeputhenpurayil and Alex Mannoor on 21st and 28th of July, respectively. We had holy Mass and prayers for them and cut the cakes.

Feast of St. Alphonsa

We celebrated the feast of St Alphonsa on 28th July. We had solemn High Mass in Malayalam celebrated by Fr Rector and Fr George Kulampally.



Feast of St. Joseph

The feast of St. Joseph was celebrated with Solemn Mass and Litany on 21st March, 2020. Since it was the Unit Feast of St. Joseph's unit of our Parish the celebrations were conducted by them and all were served refreshments too.

Prayer Day in the Lockdown

Special prayer day in this time of Pandemic was observed on 25th March with a half day Eucharistic Adoration. Only the Sisters were present for the same. Our Province level Prayer day was conducted on 4 th April in our Ashram.



The Petals

The Petals

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HolyWeek Celebrations

All the Holy week Celebrations were conducted in the Church without the presence of the Faithful. It was made available to the faithful via social media.

Helping hands to the needy

During the period of Lockdown we had a chance to serve the needy in our area. Some monetary and material helps were given to few families of our area. Around seventy five familes were given dry ration kits.







The new batch of Khrist Jyothi Minor Seminary arrived on 22nd June 2020. The rector and the community welcomed them. There was a video conference with Rev. Fr. George Alukka, Provincial Superior of the Province at that night.

Schola Brevis

The Scholastic year 2020-2021 was inaugurated on 29th July 2020. The programme began with the holy mass. We were indeed lucky to have Rev. Fr. Saju Thottamattam, the Vice Provincial as our Chief Guest. He enlightened and blessed the Benjamin's through his thought provoking message. The cultural programmes by the brothers were really reasoned the beauty of the day.

Farewell

Khrist Jyothi Minor Seminary, bid farewell to Rev. Fr. Dony Mullakkariyil CST

with a Prayer session and a multifarious candle light dinner on 9thJuly 2020. We were blessed with the esteemed presence of Rev. Frs. Thomas Anjilivelil, Abraham Poonolil, Saju Koothodiputhenpurayil and Fr. Rockey.

KHRISTU JYOTI MISSION BHAVAN

We the community of Khrist Jyothi Minor Seminary thank our new regents Bros. Jestin Panthalanickal and Tom Alancheril. We also remember with gratitude Bros. Arun Chemmanampadathu, Joice Muthanattu and Joby Thaithara for their new pastures and we wish them all the very best for their coming years.

During this pandemic situation of Covid-19, we the Benjamin's are lucky to have the presence of Dn. Ajay, Our Theologians, Bros. Rince, Sagil and Sajan and the senior brothers of Little Flower Seminary Malout.



Dear friends, On 4th of August Catholic Church gratefully remembers a French Parish Priest who left behind us a great legacy to hand on and whose memory still attracts the people to the city of Ars. He is A MODEL FOR THE PRIESTS OF OUR TIMES. In his time, a great number of people came to Ars to meet with St John-Mary Vianney. By his simple life, filled with faith, he speaks to the people of our age and calls each of them back to the fundamental reality of our lives: "God is there".

It is only if he is in love with Christ that the priest can teach others about this union, this intimate friendship with the Divine Master, that he can touch the heart of people and open them up to the merciful love of the Lord. It is only in this way, therefore, that he will be able to hand on the enthusiasm and spiritual vitality to the communities with which the Lord entrusts him."

The figure of this French mystic, who has been 'patron saint of parish priests' since 1929, and 'patron of French priests' since 1905, ultimately did not seem sufficiently representative of the priesthood in the twenty-first century, nor sufficiently universal." However, on March 16, 2009, when Benedict XVI unexpectedly announced his intention to organize a special "year for priests", from June 19, 2009, to June 11, 2010, and the Holy See on that

occasion, proclaimed St. John-Marie Vianney "patron of all the priests of the world".

We can find some Attainable Traits from the life of Vianney: He had always cherished the sense of humor. He could find happiness in everything that he did. And he could help others to find happiness from their gloomy situations. He had a bad memorysince he was not that studious or intellectual.he used to forget many things. And one among them was his sermons. He would write down his sermons, because he couldn't remember them and sometimes would forget where he was on the page, and would "appear to literally sink down in the pulpit." At the end of his life his sermons got shorter and shorter and near the end, toothless, he would point to the Tabernacle and say, "There he is. There he is.' His followers thought that perhaps those sermons were his most eloquent."

Vianney was very poor in School. Vianney grew up on a farm and was unfamiliar with books, although "he reverenced books and regarded them as almost magical tools." He struggled in school. In seminary, Vianney failed his tests the first time. His wise bishop, seeing the holiness in him, had him retested. This time the tests were taken in his home town and not in Latin, but in his native French. Vianney did well. He was very much fond of learning about the Faith.

Completely dispelling the myth that he was ignorant and barely educated, Vianney had many books and read them all, particularly by the Church Fathers, "I do love learning everything I can about the Faith. It is like exploring a new alternative universe that I have just discovered and I want to uncover every inch of it—the saints, the writings, the art, the stories." He was very strict with his self-discipline: Vianney existed on only two hours sleep a night, and maintained a daily diet of a few potatoes and some milk. A medical doctor who examined him ten years before his death commented that medical science cannot explain how Vianney was alive. Vianney responded, "When you are working for heaven, you don't die of starvation."

Saint John Vianney performed many miracles of healing, attributing all the miracles to Saint Philomena. Vianney worked for his parish twenty-two hours a day, never taking a day off in the forty-one years he was a priest. He would hear confessions for up to 16 hours a day. He offered light penances in the Confessional, and did the penances himself. Once when a man blithely read off a list of sins, the Cure started weeping. When the man asked him why he was crying the saint replied, "I weep because you do not weep." And when we speak about his holiness; Vianney learned that "a priest is someone who would die to become one." He said of the Eucharist "I throw myself at the foot of the Tabernacle like a dog at the foot of his Master." Vianney says of prayer, "It is like two friends living together."

Near the end of his life he said, "Good gracious! I have spent thirty-six years in Ars and I have never been cross, and now I am too old to begin." Dear friends, it's a time for us to be locked down ourselves with the Lord...vianney locked himself in the city of ARs for 36 years...

Many priests are in great dilemma and confusion not knowing what to do during these days of Covid-19? Vianney was not bored during his time in Ars. And we know, it's not going to calm down easily the spread of Covid-19. It's in this situation, we need to learn from our patron saint Vianney how to lock down ourselves during these days and at the same time not stopping the work which we priests are being entrusted with-building the kingdom of God; but we know, even during the Covid, many are still try to build the man made mansions...

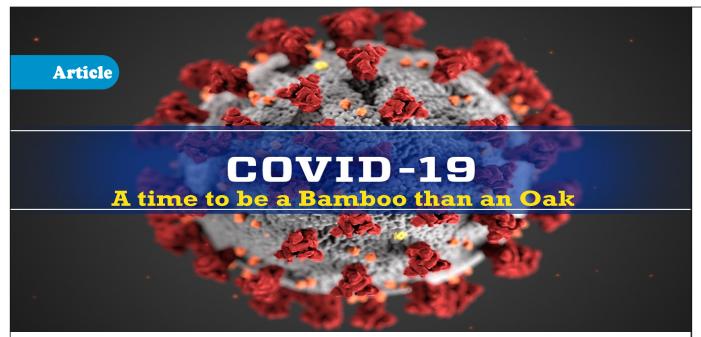
Facing the challenge of Covid-19, how shall we go forward with our pastoral works? It must be a thought that must be haunting each and every priest. Or else, our presence in the mission would remain fruitless. Rather than making many more buildings, let's build the church by building the people. It was the spirit of initial Christian community. It's a time to go back to the original spirit rather than presenting the church today through big mega shows having no spirit of the worship. The formation and the system in the religious life do not provide much opportunity for exposure to diverse realities of the world. Everything is arranged from the top: Retreats, courses and other routine programmes. They make priests and religious ignorant of the socio-political, economic and cultural realities. Gradually they become intellectually, emotionally and spiritually stagnant and barren.

How do priests understand their own roles today and what is the expectation of the laity from the priests? If we find time to answer all the above said questions, I think every priest can come back to the mission for whom he is called and not doing the works that one wishes or likes.

The waves of life/sea will beat against you...but you can walk like Peter if you can hold the hands of the Lord...

May God bless... Fr Shan Joseph CST





Even after half of a year gets lost into the oblivion of time, the Convid 19 pandemic seems invincible and unsurpassable either to the mighty humans or to the almighty supernatural. Hardcore atheists look delighted as these unprecedented developments seals the covenant of a mechanical world they believe to have been signed during the exodus of evolution. They would readily and happily accommodate Corona virus in one of the many rooms in the mansion of evolution. But on the other hand, their counterparts, the die-hard believers look panicked. The churches/ temples have been remained closed for almost a quarter of the year, their prayers seem unheard as day by day the virus resists to hook up on the bate of vaccines; in short, they feel that the primeval chaos restored again. In a state of total void some of them went clueless how to contain the situation, at the outburst of

which attempting to breach the safety protocols of the government in order to hold on to their faith. For them Corona would never be able to penetrate the safety shield the God has set ready all around them. Some scattered events taken place here and there in the world all over make this claim far from a mere exaggeration. Recently a WhatsApp footage of an old pastor in Kerala, notwithstanding the people around him including a cop insisting him to wear the mask but unwilling to do so went viral. The funny thing wasthat he was reciting the Psalm 91 that God will never leave him to die even if he does others. I myself being a strong believer, had to react to this ridiculous witnessing with a thumbs down. Survival is said to be the trademark of the 'fittest'; they are wo/men of roots than canopy. The famous Japanese proverb is worth-mentioning at this point, "The bamboo that bends is

stronger than the Oak that resists". If you are deep rooted in your faith no matter however strong the wind is, it cannot uproot you even if it bends you back and back to the ground. So, I would say, only true faith will endure this exilic period of Covid19. Afterall, what is there for the believers to worry about? Why does the journey of faith being a blind-fold tightrope walk, where you are led by your inner eyes need a KM stone to navigate you? Therefore, the theists of today are doing a shadow boxing than a do or die battle as the pandemic is concerned. Because, the 'Challenge' that Covid poses is far less than the 'checkmate' called by many other social evils of our time. Perhaps, the capitalism that has been intruding into the religious circles could be curbed to a large extend by the pandemic. For long time faith has been identified with religious ritualism whereby the interiority aspect of which got overshadowed. Too much ritualism has a Domino effect on the other similar evils which are always looking for a lacuna to get in; narcissism, clericalism, capitalism, nepotism, materialism so and so forth.

What! Covid is a blessing in guise! Well, it is and it should be. It all depends on the meaning we attribute to it and that is what faith offers after all. To quote the master of suspicion here, "He who has a why to live can bear almost any how". What Nietzsche means gets complete only when he is corroborated by another great man, Victor Franklin, "everything can be taken from a man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms - to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one's own way". It's a matter of your attitudes and the kind of faith you possess, that decide the destiny of your religiosity in the context of Covid 19. Unless you yourself let in no virus can creep into your interiority, where the true faith resides. As a result, you never feel offended being submissive to the state laws, on the contrary by doing so you are in fact letting your God to provide you the shield to protect you from the virus attack.

Juslin James









